

Message Text

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ORIGIN SMI-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ABF-01 AGR-10 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 FSE-00 HEW-06 HUD-02

INR-07 INT-05 LOC-01 NASA-02 NSAE-00 NSF-02 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY SMI:KBSCHMERTZ:BS

APPROVED BY OES/SCI/BMP:MSBEAUBIEN

SMI:WDCOERR

EUR/EE:RCHRISTENSEN(INFO)

OES/SCI/SEP:JGSAMPAS

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P 112146Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 136609

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI,SCUL,YO

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN/SFCP: GRANT NO. JF-2-SMI,
"ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT STOBI"

REFERENCE: BELGRADE'S 2774

1. ATTENTION SCIENCE ATTACHE PASS RUSSELL WHITENER. REFTEL
CONVEYS REQUEST WISEMAN, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR SUBJECT
PROJECT, THAT SMITHSONIAN INCREASE JOINT FUND GRANT BY
128,488,26 ND (7,589.38 EQUIVALENT) TO COVER WHAT REFTEL
SUGGESTS IS LESS OF VALUE OF GRANT RESULTING FROM ADJUST-
MENT IN DINAR DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE FROM 15.43 ND

TO ONE DOLLAR,AT TIME SMITHSONIAN FUNDS WERE DEPOSITED IN
THE JOINT FUND,TO CURRENT 16.91 ND TO ONE DOLLAR.

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2. SMITHSONIAN PUZZLED THAT THERE CAN BE A CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF DINARS MADE AVAILABLE FOR WISEMAN OR ANY OTHER JOINT FUND GRANTEE SINCE ALL JOINT FUND GRANTS UNIFORMLY EXPRESSED IN DINARS AND ALL DRAW FROM A FUND OF DINARS. NO DINARDOLLAR EXCHANGE IS INVOLVED IN SUCH TRANSACTIONS AND RECOMPUTATION OF THE NUMBER DINARS TO BE DISBURSED THEREFORE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND. SMITHSONIAN GRANTS SPECIFY IN THE "REPORTING AND DISBURSING INSTRUCTIONS" WHICH ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GRANT PRECISELY THE NUMBER OF DINARS, NOT DOLLARS, TO BE DISBURSED TO BOTH AMERICAN AND YUGOSLAV COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS FOR RESEARCH AND FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL. EVEN IF THE BUDGET AND THE DISBURSING INSTRUCTIONS WERE EXPRESSED IN DOLLARS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE WHAT JUSTIFICATION THERE WOULD BE FOR COMPUTING THE DINAR DISBURSEMENT ON ANY OTHER BASIS THAN THAT USED AT THE TIME THE DINARS WERE DEPOSITED IN THE JOINT FUND OR 15.43 ND TO THE DOLLAR.

3. CLARIFICATION OF THIS QUESTION IS CRITICAL SINCE THE SMITHSONIAN HAS NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO ITS GRANTEES IN YUGOSLAVIA.

4. SINCE RUSSELL WHITENER, DEPARTMENT'S FOREIGN CURRENCY COORDINATOR, WILL BE IN BELGRADE BEGINNING JUNE 16 FOR U.S.-YUGOSLAV JOINT BOARD MEETING, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE EMBASSY RAISE THIS QUESTION WITH HIM AND CONSIDER WITH HIM ALSO THE APPROPRIATENESS OF MAKING THE QUESTION ONE FOR FORMAL JOINT BOARD DISCUSSION.

5. EMBASSY REQUESTED 1) INFORM WISEMAN OF THIS INTERIM SMITHSONIAN RESPONSE HIS REQUEST AND 2) CONVEY TO HIM AND TO THE SMITHSONIAN THE RECOMMENDATION MADE BY WHITENER AND/OR THE JOINT BOARD AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. KISSINGER

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